

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES IN WASHINGTON AS SPRING SEASON ADVANCES

Polo Ball for Capital on Night of Horse Show Opening

Postponed Dance To Be Held Next Friday—President Goes Back Stage to Greet Students at Mask and Wig Entertainment.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 6. **H**ECTIC last week and hectic next week, but a slight abatement of the social fever this week. Really it is a relief to be able to draw a long breath occasionally, and it's largely because two or three rather big things scheduled for this week have been put over till next week that one has been able to. For instance, there was the Polo Ball, which was to have taken place on Monday night, and which out of respect to the death of Brig.-Gen. McAndrew, Chief of Staff of the U. S. A. E. F. and Pershing's chief aide in France, has been put off to Friday of next week, which also is the opening day of the Horse Show. And there were one or two other things which were postponed, thereby relieving the pressure a bit now, but probably increasing it a little later.

It was perhaps just as well that the Polo Ball was postponed from last Monday night, for the Mask and Wiggers' chief aide in France, who has been President only a little more than a year, and he hasn't yet learned, being a really modest, humble-minded man, that there never is a moment when no one is looking at him, and just saying "Higway!" to the boys out back.

There was considerable visiting back and forth among all the boxes, and even among parties seated in the orchestra chairs, and a constant stream of guests paying their respects to the Hardings. It was rather hard to say just where "the audience" was. I think it was Mr. Martin's party that occupied the boxes adjoining the President's. Mr. Martin is a special assistant to the Attorney-General. His guests included Secretary Mellon, Attorney-General Daugherty, Senator and Mrs. Pepper, Gov. and Mrs. Sproul, Gen. and Mrs. John A. Johnson, Judge and Mrs. Rush Holland, Judge and Mrs. F. P. Taylor, Major and Mrs. Charles A. Wilson, Miss Gladys Hinkle, Miss Frances Sullivan and Mr. Jesse Smith.

The President is the best sort of an audience. He doesn't go to the theater a great deal, but when he does he seems to be having a perfectly wonderful time—and to have quite forgotten his worries. Monday night he apparently was enjoying the performance hugely. He leaned forward in his box and watched and listened, and I don't believe a single thing got past him. And then, at a sudden—no, it wasn't that. But a moment later vociferous cheers and shouts of "Harding! Harding! Harding!"—and then the U. P. yelled from back on the stage (it was pell-mell from intermission, of course) proclaimed his whereabouts.

Girls Out in Force. Looking around the house, one noticed that the girls were out in force. Quite naturally, of course, since, aside from the U. P. men on the stage, there were ever so many of them in the audience—and, besides, Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Bell, who because the son "Bobby" Bell was a U. P. man and a Mask and Wigger are always rooting for the U. P., and especially for the Mask and Wig, were to give a dance "after the show" for the boys. Of course, it takes girls as well as boys to make a successful dance, so they were all there. Mrs. Charles M. Folk had a box party for her debutante granddaughter, Miss Gladys Chapman Smith—mostly debutantes, of course, among them Patricia Almsa, Betty Connolly and two or three others. The Bells themselves had with them Delphine Hoyt, Jean Chester Bell, an English niece who has been visiting

as many as could be accommodated comfortably.

One rather missed the big figure of the Peruvian Ambassador, Senor Peset, and his wife. But they went home to Peru a month or two ago for their first visit in many moons. There were rumors that they would not return, which would have been too bad, for they have been in the States in various capacities for the better part of twenty years, and there are few whom Washington would miss more. But they are on their way back—indeed should be here within a day or two—prepared to resume their position here.

One learning in Washington to discredit those rumors. Most of the changes in the diplomatic corps come almost entirely unannounced. But no diplomat ever goes home on leave that gossip doesn't immediately get busy with rumors that he will not return. The rumor as to the Justiceros is a hardy annual. It is one of the flowers that bloom in the spring in Washington, or rather in the early summer, about the time they usually sail for France. This year it has blossomed rather earlier than usual, and like most forward blossoms, been promptly nipped by frost in the shape of official denials from the French Government that there was any change contemplated for the present.

Entertained Academicians. Meanwhile the Justiceros are sorely going their way. They are probably used to being reeled by rumor, and they have been too busy chaperoning the visit of Maurice Dounay, chancellor of the Academy of Arts and Sciences, and Andre Chevreton, also of the Academy, to pay much attention to trifles. These two distinguished men and Gen. Pedro Nel Ospina, president-elect of Colombia, have divided honors as the four guests of the week. The latter, who is here "quite unofficially," but apparently subject for official entertainment, was the honor guest of a White House dinner last Wednesday, when met practically the entire Executive branch of the Government—"savins" the Coolidges, and representatives of the legislative and judicial branches.

Senator Albert Cummins, President pro tem of the Senate, and his two sisters, the Misses Cummings, were in the company, presumably representing the "vice-President" in one of his capacities. I don't know, of course, why the Coolidges were not present—Mrs. Coolidge had had a long standing luncheon engagement at Dover House, twenty miles away in a rather inaccessible but very lovely part of Maryland, and possibly could not be sure of getting back in time. Anyhow, they probably had some good reason for being off. The Speaker and Mrs. Gillet were there. The Supreme Court was represented by Justice McKenna—and one assumes that the Chief Justice and Mr. Taft, who had been in Philadelphia for a dinner Tuesday night, as part of the celebration of the dedication of the old State House in Independence square (it is the building in which the Supreme Court was organized and in which it sat for the first few years of its existence), probably had not returned to Washington. The entire Cabinet was in attendance, except for Secretary Fall, who is out West, with their wives. Secretary Mellon was accompanied by Miss Alice Mellon, who has just returned to Washington after an absence of a couple of months of visits, the last of them in New York. William Phillips, Under Secretary of State, who has recently assumed the position in succession to Henry P. Fletcher, made his first social official appearance since his return to Washington.

For the rest there was a Senator or two—Senator and Mrs. Medill McCormick, Senator Philip and Senator Brandegee; one lonely Representative and his wife, John Jacob Rogers of Massachusetts, and a scattering of others, officials, aides, and one or two of the resident set, with, of course, the Colombian Charge d'Affaires, Senor Uribe, and the Secretary of the Legation, Senor Coronado.

The Ospinas—Gen. Ospina and his daughter, Senora Helena—were guests at the Colombian Legation on O street, Senor Uribe acting as their host. For the new Colombian Minister, Senor Herarra, though he is in New York, has not yet come to Washington and presented his credentials. Senora Ospina, although she is in America with her husband, is in poor health and remained in New York when he came to Washington. She is under medical treatment there, as I understand it, and only their daughter, Senora Helena, came with her father, and went to the White House dinner with him, and shared the other entertaining, whenever it was not entirely misleading, that was arranged for him in Washington. For when the President had done his duty by the visiting head of a sister republic the State Department took up the glad refrain, and Dr. Rowe of the Pan-American Union, and of course the Colombian Legation and such of the other Latin American diplomats as could or as regarded it as the diplomatic thing to do.

That was about the only real function at the White House this week, although the President had a little flurry with some visiting Macons, and both he and Mrs. Harding received the delegates to the Women's Overseas Service League at the White House on Monday afternoon.

The Women's Overseas Service League are some scientific and medical conventions were the successors of the series of big women's organizations that have been convening in Washington for the last month. There was plenty of entertaining for them, but it was small and select as compared with that of the last two weeks for the big ancestral patriotic organizations, and for the League of Women Voters' Pan-American conference and Lady Astor, to say nothing of the League of American Penwomen. The hostesses of the Women's Overseas League were people of considerable social importance, like Mrs. Larr Anderson, Mary Roberts Rinehart and Miss Dorothy Denys, and the medical specialists and experts and scientists were entertained by local leaders in their respective lines of endeavor at highly specialized parties. But there are some weddings looming large on the horizon, which are not too specialized to be interesting and the plans for the Horse Show next week are being eagerly discussed.

Times was, and not so many years ago, when the New York Horse Show was regarded as opening the New York season, no less truly than the Washington Horse Show closed the Washington season. But now, while in New York things may still be running along in the same time honored deep grooves, in Washington, where "Presidents, precedents, precedence" were the three words to conjure with, one could map out a season and almost write every dinner list after a season or two of official society. Now everything goes "by guess and by sight" and no one can tell how a thing is going to be done until it has been done.

The Horse Show opens on next Friday and runs until the following Wednesday, five days. And while people are talking about it and planning for it and having house guests for the Horse Show week excursions to the States that they must have their newest and

sportiest clothes ready thereafter—and there is every reason to believe that it is going to be bigger and better than ever before—still when it comes to closing the season in Washington—It is silly to talk of "closing the Washington season"—silly and quite out of date. It simply isn't done. There is no closed season in Washington any more. Congress is getting to be a continuous performance—never out and never over. And as long as Congress is here the President stays. And as long as the President and Congress are on the job the Cabinet has to be. And with all of them sitting on the lid here in Washington the Diplomatic Corps doesn't dare relax its role of watchful waiting.

Not long ago an Ohio woman, presumably a Cincinnati woman, was heard exclaiming Mrs. Longworth as an Ohioan whom Ohio saw little or nothing of. And the answer came: "I know it; but I can't help it. I've registered from Ohio for sixteen years now! (Sixteen years—does it seem possible?) And I don't believe I've spent more than sixteen months at home in Cincinnati." She went on to explain that "Nick" had not been able to get away from Washington at all last summer until well into August. But the really hard worked public servant is the President of these United States. Some day somebody—some real patriot and understanding philanthropist—is going to organize a society for the prevention of cruelty to Presidents. They are shamefully overworked. And whenever they do plan a pleasant little vacation they find, though they take the wings of the morning and flee to the uttermost parts of the earth, that sundry and receptions and divers and sundry "hospitalities" have been organized for them; and so thoroughly is the advertising value of the President understood in the smallest hamlet that before they start the railroads are announcing special cut rate excursions to the nearest point to the particular quiet corner in which they had hoped to have such a nice, restful time.

Alaska Trip in Doubt. I am moved to these meditations by the fact that those "in the know" are apparently very much of the opinion that the President and Mrs. Harding will not be able to make that Alaska

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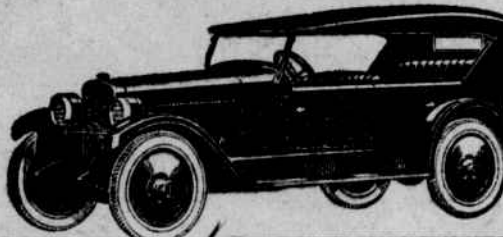
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Chateau Laurier, at the foot of Belden Point, City Island, welcomed several hundred diners last night when it opened for the season.

Introducing new songs and dances each week the summer "Review of Syncope" at Healy's Golden Glades Roof continues at that dining place tonight. Warner Gault has succeeded Herbert Sherman in the cast.

Edward Ellina's Band has made a big hit at the Pavilion Royal with the racing crowd. Since the opening of the Jamaica track the new dance restaurant on the Merrick road at Valley Stream has been enjoying exceptional business.

Miss Gilda Gray will appear in the "Grand Glitz Theatre" at the three day street fair in front of Sherry's, beginning May 16, in her Russian pantomime skit, "The Russian Girl." The skit is a comedy. Mrs. Lydia Hoyt invited the dancer to give her number in her novel street theater after a visit to the Rendezvous a few nights ago, and Miss Gray agreed to motor over with her pretty young Russian assistants each afternoon and night in full makeup from the Rendezvous.

The Plantation continues to be a decidedly popular eating place. The entertainment offered at the establishment is unique.

The official opening of Thomas Healy's May-November Farm at Hartdale, N. Y., will take place next Saturday night, with an entertainment by some of Broadway's popular musical comedy and vaudeville celebrities. The program will include Martin Cullane, the eccentric comedian from the "Review of Syncope" at Healy's Golden Glades; Zaza and Adelle, Tommy Clark, Miss Line Spangler and others. Miss Pronoun is proprietor of the May-November Farm.

The Red Lion Inn, one of the oldest roadhouses in New York State on the Boston Post road, is now under the management of Mr. S. Badolati, who

has been in the restaurant business many years. Extensive alterations have been made. A special chicken waffle dinner at \$1.50 per cover is featured here.

A welcome home night was tendered to Ted Lewis and his famous band at the Ted Lewis Club last Friday night. The Ted Lewis Club has been redecorated and will be open all summer.

The Pleadilly Chop House in Forty-fifth street was pronounced the nearest thing to the famous old Simpson's-in-the-Strand that America has by several visiting London hotel men this week.

Additional decorations have done much to enhance the beauty of the gigantic ballroom of the Dancing Palace and the many patrons who nightly enjoy the continual dancing are most enthusiastic with their praise for the two new orchestras that have just recently begun engagements at the City Block of Dancing.

The Blue and White Marimba Band needs no introduction to New Yorkers, as they enjoy the reputation of a season's engagement at the Hippodrome, brought direct from Guatemala by Charles B. Dillingham and later appeared for two solid years on the Century Theater roof, the New Kenners Orchestra, while no so well known as the public will soon live in reputation with the best dance combinations on Broadway because of their exceptional technique.

Since opening last week, "Bandanaland," the sensational Mississippi levee colored revue produced by Miller and Lyric and Sisile & Blake, of "Shuffle Along" fame, has become the talk of the town. Laymen and critics alike have proclaimed it the fastest novelty entertainment ever staged in America, and judging by the capacity audiences witnessing it nightly in the New Bynona Room (formerly Helsenwebers) "Bandanaland" bids fair to run for many months to come.

Aside from the sparkling score and lyrics concocted by Sisile & Blake, "Bandanaland" boasts of the most versatile cast of colored entertainers on Broadway. The company is headed by Lottie Gee, the "Shuffle Along" prima donna; May Brown and Garland Smith, Bob Williams and Charlie Davis and Mildred Steward, assisted by a chorus of the eight most beautiful chorus girls in America.

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